

### T. I. P # 20

## Applying Wide Webs of Application Paper

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To properly apply transfer paper use uniform and moderate pressure with a narrow, flat contact edge. Using a roller or squeegee makes little difference, as long as the paper is not stretched, bubbled or wrinkled.

As the width of graphics extends beyond 36 inches, it becomes increasingly difficult to apply transfer tape uniformly and without wrinkles or bubbles. Wider hand squeegees can work up to a point. The two most commonly used types are a six inch (15 cm) wide plastic type and a 12 inch (30 cm) wide metal-edged version. Hand held roller applicators can also be used and are available in widths up to about 24 inches.

However, if wide graphics are a common part of a shop's work, then a supplemental tool is recommended.

For manual applications install an unwind bar at the end of the work bench which will position the application tape level a couple of inches above the work surface. This bar should be easily secured so various widths or types of paper or film can be used without undue roll changing labor.



Tape corners and long edges of graphic sheet faceside up with masking tape. Pull required length of application paper over graphic and secure it at the distant end of the graphic and begin squeegee strokes from center to edge back towards the roll stand. Creating wrinkles or bubbles should be avoided as they will transfer to the finished graphic when installed.

If high volume lamination of wide graphics is a normal part of your operation, a mechanical laminator system of opposing rubber rollers can be ordered through a variety of converting machine suppliers. They are available at a wide range of costs depending on how many rolls are to be fed into or stripped off during the lamination process.